United States Department of Agriculture



75 High Street, Room 301 Morgantown, WV 26505 PH: 304-284-7540 Fax: 304-284-4839



April 15, 2004

WEST VIRGINIA BULLETIN NO: WV300-4-7

SUBJECT: FY 2004 WHIP TENTATIVE APPROVALS

<u>Purpose</u>: To provide tentative approvals and guidance for the 2nd Round of

2004 WHIP

Expiration Date: This bulletin expires September 30, 2004.

Attached are the tentative approvals for the 2^{nd} Round of 2004 Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP). The tentatively approved list was drawn from the existing applications on file in the state office on April 8, 2004. Plans should be developed and contracts completed no later than June 15, 2004.

Although WHIP is a continuous sign-up, a concentrated sign-up period starts immediately and will extend through June 1, 2004. The next list of tentative approvals will be drawn from all available ranking summary sheets received in the State Office prior to June 15, 2004. The number of tentative approvals will depend on the funding available.

The applications that have been designated to be planned by WVDNR are identified on the tentatively approved list and are marked "YES" under the column entitled "WVDNR". If your field office has already completed a plan on one or more of the applications selected by WVDNR, please notify Casey Shrader or Jim Piper immediately. A packet of information must be prepared by NRCS for applications that have been designated to be designed by WVDNR. This information should be held at the field office and available to the WVDNR representative no later than April 26, 2004. This information will include the following items:

- 1) The applicant's address, phone number, and directions to the property
- 2) A plan map at an appropriate scale with the property boundaries identified (if possible, color generated from ArcView)
- 3) A copy of the WHIP Summary Ranking Sheet
- 4) A copy of the topographic map (optional)
- 5) Soils information (map with corresponding soils descriptions)
- 6) Any other pertinent information concerning the application

A representative from WVDNR will contact the field office to schedule an appropriate time to pick up the packet of information and schedule an initial site visit. The initial site visit will take place with the landowner and a representative from NRCS. A wildlife habitat design will be developed by WVDNR according to NRCS standards. The NRCS field office will then complete a plan in toolkit and develop the WHIP contract. WVDNR will be present with NRCS during the signing

of the contract to answer landowner questions regarding the plan and practices involved. Those applications assigned to WVDNR are not subject to the June 1, 2004 completion deadline. The agreement with WVDNR specifies that the completed wildlife habitat designs will be provided to the District Conservationists no later than Aug. 13, 2004, for contract development. District Conservationists should complete the contracts within two weeks after receiving the designs from WVDNR.

It is very important that the field office contact all the tentatively approved individuals identified in your respective counties to determine the landowner's intent to continue in the program. Should a landowner wish to cancel their application, please notify the program manager using the attached WV-300-2 Notice of Intent to Withdraw Form as soon as possible.

Also attached is a link to sample letters that should be used to notify WHIP applicants of the status of their application for FY2004 and their appropriate appeal rights. Applications that were not approved for funding will remain on file and reconsidered when funds are available or until a written request to remove them is received. Applicants should be advised of their status as soon as possible. Letters to applicants not selected in FY2004 due to lack of funding will be sent in early October, 2004. Questions concerning appeal rights should be directed to Jim Piper.

If you have other questions regarding WHIP, please contact Jim Piper, ASTC-Operations Management at (304) 284-7543 or Casey Shrader, State Biologist at (304) 284-7581.

/s/

LILLIAN V. WOODS
State Conservationist

Attachments: List of tentatively approved WHIP applicants

Sample letters to WHIP applicants (4) WV-300-2 Notice of Intent to Withdraw

DIST: F, A

James Piper, ASTC-Opers Mgt., NRCS, Morgantown, WV
Casey Shrader, State Biologist, NRCS, Morgantown, WV
Charlotte Wertz, SAO, NRCS, Morgantown, WV
Bill Doerr, Supervisory Contract Specialist, NRCS, Morgantown, WV
Roger Anderson, WVDNR, Elkins, WV
Gary Foster, WVDNR, Fairmont, WV
Dick Hall, WVDNR, Elkins, WV
Without Attachments
Truman Wolfe, Exec. Dir., WVCA, Charleston, WV
Joe Gumm, President, WV Association of Conservation Districts, Elkins, WV
Jim McClelland, President, WVRC&D Association

First Name	Last Name	County	Farm	Tract	Acres	Habitat Type	Target Species	Approved	USFWS PFW	WVDNR
Joe	Williams	Barbour	1147	1566	70	2 Farm Wildlife	2.5 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	YES
Robert W.	Conti Jr.	Barbour	1125	1542	22	2 Farm Wildlife	2.5 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	YES
Wezel	Perdue	Cabell	1808	8779	95	3 Woodland Wildlife	3.1 Grouse	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Sam	Tuckwiller	Greenbrier	930	641	15	1 Riparian Wildlife	1.1 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Alicia	Stickel	Harrison	1102	9590	2	1 Riparian Wildlife	1.1 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	YES	NO
Marlyn	Gorrell	Jackson	2242	6853	76	2 Farm Wildlife	2.5 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Mark	McCoy	Jackson	0	0	100	2 Farm Wildlife	2.5 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	YES
Gay Lee	Terry	Lincoln	1582	4389	81	2 Farm Wildlife	2.3 Songbird	4/12/2004	NO	YES
Andrew	Williamson	Lincoln	1581	4386	194	2 Farm Wildlife	2.3 Songbird	4/12/2004	NO	YES
Brad	Swiger	Marion	783	722	67	2 Farm Wildlife	2.3 Songbird	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Tom	Douglas	Mason	902	1706	143	2 Farm Wildlife	2.5 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
John C.	Casey	Mason	1625	557	121	2 Farm Wildlife	2.4 Rabbit	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Willis	Bishop	Mercer	0	0	100	2 Farm Wildlife	2.5 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	YES
William	Nestor	Mineral	458	495	120	3 Woodland Wildlife	3.1 Grouse	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Wako	Gun Club	Mineral	788	965	322	3 Woodland Wildlife	3.2 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Wako	Gun Club	Mineral	788	878	398	3 Woodland Wildlife	3.2 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
James R.	Fisher, Jr.	Mineral	872	966	85	3 Woodland Wildlife	3.2 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
James W.	Brafford	Mineral	865	964	85	3 Woodland Wildlife	3.2 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Andy	Price	Monongalia	381	176	4	1 Riparian Wildlife	1.1 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	YES	NO
Harry	Perkins	Pocahontas	154	171	130	2 Farm Wildlife	2.5 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
J. R.	Wolfe	Preston	61	58	93	2 Farm Wildlife	2.3 Songbird	4/12/2004	YES	NO
Jesse	Ringer	Preston	940	942	70	2 Farm Wildlife	2.5 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Elijah	Chapman	Putnam	1559	1656	230	2 Farm Wildlife	2.5 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Joe	Neeley	Putnam	1192	493	75	2 Farm Wildlife	2.5 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Bill	Hacher	Putnam	1000	9001	148	2 Farm Wildlife	2.5 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Mary Ann	Turner Cutright	Upshur	719	943	2	1 Riparian Wildlife	1.1 General Wildlife	4/12/2004	YES	NO
Rick	Smith	Wayne	193	646	345	3 Woodland Wildlife	3.1 Grouse	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Robert	McFann, Jr.	Wayne	1003	1169	90	3 Woodland Wildlife	3.1 Grouse	4/12/2004	NO	NO
Woody	Ray	Wetzel	0	0	110	2 Farm Wildlife	2.3 Songbird	4/12/2004	NO	NO